

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY **REGION III** 1650 Arch Street Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2029

SEP 1 2 2011

The Honorable John P. Sarbanes U:S. House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515-2003

Dear Representative Sarbanes:

Thank you for your August 19, 2011 letter to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on behalf of your constituent, Mr. a student at Winston Churchill High School, regarding the Kane & Lombard Superfund site (Site) in Baltimore, Maryland.

At the time Mr. submitted his request to EPA for information regarding the Site, the EPA regional office had received 60 similar requests from students attempting to complete school projects. In an effort to be responsive to all the students' needs within a tight timeframe, we centralized the students' requests. I regret if Mr. concerns were not fully addressed.

Mr. inquired about community involvement activities associated with the Site. It is EPA's intent to encourage early and meaningful community participation during the cleanup of all Superfund sites. The foundation of Superfund's community involvement program is the belief that members of the public affected by a Superfund site have a right to know what EPA is doing in their community and be given the opportunity to provide input into the decision-making process.

There is a long history of community involvement associated with this Site. Throughout the years, EPA has issued cleanup progress and health fact sheets; distributed weekly update reports; developed periodic pollution reports; issued press releases and published public notices; conducted public meetings; developed community relations plans; responded routinely to citizen requests; and accepted formal comments from the public at key stages in the cleanup process. If your constituent is interested in viewing any of these community involvement products, reports, and summaries, they are available online at the following address: http://loggerhead.epa.gov/arweb/public/search_results.jsp?siteid=MDD980923783

questions regarding the list of Potentially Responsible In response to Mr. Parties (PRPs), there are several associated with this Site, including: Browns Ferris Inc.; Constellation Power Source Generation; and Lucent Technologies. EPA, the State of Maryland, and a group of PRPs signed a Consent Decree in November of 1995, which required the PRPs to reimburse EPA and the State a total of \$6 million in past response costs at the Site. Under the Consent Decree, the PRPs are also operating and maintaining the barrier wall and the cap.

Since that time, under several Administrative Orders on Consent, the PRPs have completed various aspects of the investigation and cleanup of the Site; in particular, determining the nature and extent of groundwater contamination caused by releases from the Site. They are being responsive to all aspects involved in the cleanup of the Site.

I encourage Mr. continue his studies about the environment and EPA's important mission of protecting human health and the environment.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or have your staff contact Mrs. Linda Miller, EPA's Maryland Liaison, at 215-814-2068.

Sincerely,

Shawn M. Garvin
Regional Administrator

JOHN P. SARBANES

3RD DISTRICT, MARYLAND

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, SPACE, AND TECHNOLOGY

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, BC 20515—2003

www.sarbanes.house.gov

2444 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING (202) 225-4016 FAX: (202) 225-9219

> 600 BALTIMORE AVENUE SUITE 303 TOWSON, MD 21204 (410) 832-8890 FAX: (410) 832-8898

44 CALVERT STREET SUITE 349 ANNAPOLIS, MD 21401 (410) 295-1679 FAX: (410) 295-1682

August 19, 2011

Mr. David McIntosh Associate Administrator Environmental Protection Agency Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue Washington, DC 20460-0003

Dear Mr. McIntosh:

Enclosed, please find a copy of correspondence from my constituent Mr.

This individual has expressed some concerns about information regarding a superfund site in Maryland. I would appreciate it if you would carefully review their comments and provide a response to the concerns.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

John P. Sarbanes Member of Congress

JPS/jn

Dear Congressman Sarbanes,

I am currently a student at Winston Churchill High School and have a few questions/complaints regarding Maryland Superfund Sites and the EPA. My A.P. U.S. Government and Politics class recently did a project on Superfund sites in Maryland, and my group was assigned the Kane & Lombard Street dump in Baltimore. To find information pertaining to the site my group and I used the EPA website and attempted to contact the site's remedial manager and community involvement coordinator. While the EPA's website had useful information, it was not thorough enough to use as the sole source of information for the project. As a result, we contacted the remedial project manager and community involvement coordinator. The remedial project manager responded to our questions right away, but stated that the community involvement coordinator is responsible for answering questions, such as ours, about the site. However, after three emails and a phone call the community involvement coordinator has still not responded. This was extremely frustrating because my group needed information that could only be provided by the community involvement manager, and we were thus forced to turn in an incomplete project. This was my first experience with the Government bureaucracy, and it was extremely discouraging. As a United States Congressman you are responsible to your constituents, no matter if they are old enough to vote. Because I could not obtain the needed information from the EPA I was wondering if you could answer my questions.

- 1. How is the community involved in the cleanup at this specific site, and what opportunities to help are being offered?
- 2. What are the specific responsible parties, and how each has been involved in the pollution and clean up of the site?
- 3. Did the parties involved acknowledged their responsibility or fought the site's classification as an NPL site?

Sincerely,